I

BOROUGH OF HELSTON

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1970

Dr. J. A. W. REID, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.,

Medical Officer of Health

Mr. R. W. BYWATERS, M.A.P.H.I., A.F.S.,

Chief Public Health Inspector

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HEALTH COMMITEE – 1970/71

Chairman – Councillor Capt. C. L. HOLLANDS, M.R.S.H.

Vice-Chairman – Councillor Miss P. M. WAKEHAM

Alderman J. A. S. PASCOE

Alderman C. BASSETT

Councillor J. O. W. NOYE

Councillor G. ANDREWS

Councillor W. V. C. CURNOW, B.A.

Councillor D. SWINDELLS

No. 2 AREA HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Councillor Capt. C. L. HOLLANDS, M.R.S.H.

PREFACE

Public Health Department,
The Guildhall,
HELSTON.

August 1971

To his Worship, The Mayor, Madam Mayoress,
Aldermen and Members of the Borough Council

Your Worship, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the 36th Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1970.

1970 was a landmark in the growth of the Borough. For the first time the population has exceeded 10,000. In the last 20 years the population has doubled and during the 1960's the increase was from 6,840 in 1960 to 9,860 in 1969.

The rise in the population since last year was 330 continuing the trend of the last decade. The natural increase, excess of births over deaths, rose from 132 last year to 149. This year there were 33 more births and 16 more deaths compared with 1969. No deaths associated with childbirth occurred. 9 residents, 7% of the total deaths, died from accidents or self-inflicted injuries. The birth rate showed a rise to 21.5 births per 1000 population from last year's figure of 19.5, and compares with the figure of 16 births per 1000 population in England and Wales and 14.6 in the County Council. Both the number of stillbirths (3) and infant deaths (7) increased substantially in 1970. 4 (52%) of this year's infant deaths occurred during the first day of life. There was a fall in the number of deaths from Heart Disease and a rise in the number of persons dying from Cardio-vascular disease of the Central Nervous System, in consequence the latter cause of death was the most frequent in the Borough. This is the first year that Heart Disease has not been the major cause of death. Cancer was responsible for 19% of total deaths and the most frequent site was the lungs — 27% of total cancer deaths. Twice as many men died from this disease as women.

As regards the Personal Health Services provided in the Borough there has been an increase in the number of mothers and infants using the clinics in each Ward. There has also been an increase in the number of Family Planning Clinics held and the patients attending increased from 402 last year to 630. At the beginning of the year the Anti-Smoking sessions were well attended. The preference of mothers having their babies in hospital continued to grow and only just under 7% of births belonging to the Borough took place at home.

Mr. Bywaters' report shows that this year there were more routine inspections and follow-up action in basic health work, mainly by the Public Health and Food and Drugs Acts. The clearance or modernisation of houses unfit for human habitation present a very small problem in the Borough, but the problem of waste disposal, both refuse and sewage, must be solved immediately. Clearly the growth

of the Borough will cease if the sewage system is not modernised forthwith. A number of factors have thwarted the Borough Council's intention to proceed as quickly as possible with these two major health schemes. In terms of finance the sewage system was to cost £80,000 in 1964, but due to government restrictions during the credit squeeze the cost has now increased over fivefold. If this scheme does not come to fruition as speedily as possible not only will future residents in the Borough have to dip deeply into their pockets for this increased cost, but in the low-lying parts of the town they will also have to dip into their sewage flooded cellars. During the year discussion on Local Government Reorganisation began. These discussions must not be allowed to become another delaying factor in the sewage scheme, indeed it must be greatly to the advantage of the Borough to have a new sewage scheme all but complete by April, 1974 when the new Local Government Units come into being.

The following table shows the population structure of the Borough and Cornwall County in 1951 and 1961.

% TOTAL POPULATION

Census	Pre-School		School		Workers		Retired	
	H.B.	C.C.	H.B.	C.C.	H.B.	C.C.	H.B.	C.C.
1951	8.8	7.6	12	12.8	64.8	66	14.5	13.6
1961	10.5	6.9	15	14.3	61.8	63.3	12.8	15.6

The 1951 census shows the Borough population was similar to the County as a whole, but with the development of the Naval Air Station at Culdrose, this pattern became distorted to show an abnormally young population compared with the rest of the county. The jump in birth rate due to the influx of naval families took place between 1957/58 being respectively 21 and 26 births per 1000 population. 1962 was the year in which the highest birth rate was recorded in the Borough. With development continuing at the Air Station it is likely that the population structure of the Borough will continue to be loaded on the side of youth and will continue the trend of the last 10 years. This year's rise in the birth rate is attributable to the occupation of just over 200 new houses by naval personnel at the beginning of 1969. At present there is the likelihood of a further 125 dwellings for naval families within the Borough. These facts viz: steady increase in population mainly due to the increase in young naval families; continuing high birth rate; a marked predilection of mothers for hospital delivery, point to the need to give consideration to the practicability of establishing a G.P. Maternity Unit in the Borough. In the most recent 10 year plan for hospital development the concept of the district hospital, housing the main specialties and serving a large population, was at the core of future development: however, recently some evaluation of the worth of small hospitals serving the local communities is being undertaken. If these are proved to be economic in total social benefit to local communities, then Helston would have high priority for a small hospital having maternity, acute medical and minor surgical beds, staffed by the

town's doctors and backed up by Consultant advice. It is unlikely that this could come about until the new Area Health Board is viable, but surely common sense dictates that integration of existing services must take place at local level nearest the persons being provided with an all embracing medical service.

In presenting my eleventh annual report for the Borough, I wish to express my thanks for the support of the Chairman of the Committee, members of the Committees, Officers of the Council and for the work of the staff in the Public Health Department and the Area Health Office.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. A. W. REID,

Medical Officer of Health.

Area Health Office,
Rectory Road,
CAMBORNE.

Tel. Camborne 4221/7

Your Worship, Madam, Gentlemen,

It is with pleasure that I write a short foreword to this year's Annual Report. I appreciate that it covers a time extending beyond my period of office as Chief Public Health Inspector but I feel that this can also be dealt with.

As members will observe, the past year has shown a consideration increase in the volume of work throughout the Borough. This is due to the continuing influx of new residents into the area as a result, mainly, of financial pressures affecting other parts of the country, which could eventually cause problems in the South West, in that the average age of the population is being increased: the number of persons retiring in the area are in the region of 20% of the population. With the increasing demands for improved services this could give rise to hardship due to rates rising and incomes remaining fairly static.

If growth continues at its present rate it may be necessary in the very near future to consider the whole planning aspect, and the possibilities of stopping further development.

I estimate that Helston Borough will exceed 12,500 population within the next five years, and sewage disposal could again become a problem: No doubt this will show itself in the next twelve months.

In presenting my first Annual Report for the Borough I wish to express my thanks to the Mayor, Madam Mayoress, Aldermen and Councillors for their continued support, and the officers and staff for their valued assistance over what has been rather a busy year.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant

R. W. BYWATERS,

Chief Public Health Inspector

SECTION A

1. Physical and Social Statistics

Area of the Borough	(Census 1961)	4,014 acres
Density, Houses per acre	(Census 1951)	0.43
	(Census 1961)	0.58
	Estimate 1970	0.78
Persons per acre	(Census 1951)	1.4
	(Census 1961)	1.8
	Estimate 1970	2.53
Number of families sharing a dwelling	Census 1961	33

Population	Mid year estimate	1934	5,026
	Mid year estimate	1951	5,601
	Census population	1951	5,545
	Mid year estimate	1961	6,960
	Census population	1961	7,086
	Mid year estimate	1970	10,190

Dwellings		
(a) Houses	Total inhabited	3,145
	Total Council	680
	New Private Dwellings 1970	70
	New Council Dwellings 1970	17
(b) Caravans		
	Residential	136
	Seasonal only	Nil
	Total Caravans	136
	No. of caravans on unlicensed sites	Nil
	Ratio of houses to residential caravans	22:4

Provision of Services	
Percentage of dwellings on mains water, Census 1961	96.8
Percentage of dwellings on water carriage sewerage, Census 1961	91.1
Refuse Collection	
Percentage of dwellings which have house refuse collection	100
Revenue	
Rateable value of Borough	£295,216
Product of penny rate	£1,139

I am indebted to Mr. W.T. Casey, Manager of the Department of Employment and Productivity for the following information on employment, unemployment, disablement and rehabilitation in Helston and District.

Summary of Principal Industries and Numbers employed

Industry	Men	Women	Total
Agriculture	249	44	333
Fishing	64	–	64
Quarrying	62	2	64
Food Manufacture	40	8	48
Engineering and Ship Building	67	9	76
Textiles	18	104	122
Building construction	571	8	579
Gas, Electrcity and Water Supply	24	2	26
Transport undertakings	197	36	233
Distributive trades	208	364	572
Professional services	170	432	602
Public Administration	526	59	585
Miscellaneous services	100	66	166
Catering Industry	110	197	307
Others not specified	132	91	223
	2,578	1,422	4,000

Placings

During the year 433 men, 205 women, 40 boys, and 34 girls were found jobs in the Helston area and aother 24 males and 5 females in other areas.

Unemployment

281 men and 107 women were unemployed at the end of the year. The industries most affected were:

Industry	Men	Women	Total
Engineer and Electrical	19	6	25
Agriculture	18	1	19
Fishing	52	–	52
Transport and Communication	16	4	20
Construction	46	–	46
Catering	13	31	44
Distributive trades	25	15	40
Insurance, Banking and Finance	19	12	31
Public Administration (including H.M. Forces)	33	12	45
Other Factory Workers	8	9	17
Miscellaneous Services	14	4	18
	263	94	357

Disablement

The number of Disabled persons on the Register was:

	Men	Women	Total
Surgical	80	5	85
Medical	70	2	72
Psychiatric	9	2	11
Others	13	2	15
	172	11	183

Analysis of unemployed disabled persons on Live Register April, 1970

	Men	Women	Total
Surgical	9	–	9
Medical	7	1	8
Psychiatric	1	–	1
Others	1	–	1
	18	1	19

Rehabilitation

Seven persons applied for entry into the Plymouth Rehabilitation Unit and 35 persons applied for a course at a Government Training Centre.

2. Vital Statistics

(a) Live Births	Males	Females	Total	Rate
Total	136	135	271	
Legitimate	127	130	257	
Illegitimate	9	5	14	
Birth Rate (Crude)				26.6
Comparability Factor				.81
Standardised Birth Rate (per 1000 population)				21.5
Illegitimate Rate (percentage of Live Births)				5.00
Total Live and Still Births			274	

(b) Still Births				
Total	2	1	3	
Legitimate	2	1	3	
Illegitimate	–	–	–	
Stillbirth Rate (per 1000 live & stillbirths)				11
Stillbirth Rate (per 1000 estimated resident population)				0.29

(c) General Deaths (excluding Still Births)

	Males	Females	Total	Rate
All causes	59	63	122	
Death Rate (Crude)				12.0
Comparability Factor				0.84
Standardised Death Rate (per 1000 population)				10.1
Maternal Deaths				NIL
Maternal Mortality (per 1000 total live and stillbirths)				NIL

(d) Deaths of Infants under one year

Total	3	4	7	
Legitimate	3	4	7	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1000 legitimate live births				27
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births				NIL
Infant Mortality (per 1000 live births)				26

(e) Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

Total — 4

Neo-natal mortality (per 1000 total legitimate and illegitimate live births) 15

(f) Deaths of Infants under 1 week

Total — 4

Early neo-natal mortality (per 1000 total live births) 15

Perinatal mortality (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and stillbirths) 26

(g) Maternal Mortality NIL

(h) Infant Mortality — Causes and Ages at Death

	1 day & under	1-6 days	1-4 wks.	1-6 mths.	6-12 mths.	TOTAL
Congenital Anomalies	1	—	—	—	—	1
Birth Injury	3	—	—	—	—	3
Malignant Neoplasms	—	—	—	1	—	1
Respiratory	—	—	—	1	—	1
Accident	—	—	—	1	—	1

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1970 IN THE MUNICIPAL BOROUGH OF HELSTON

Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	Age in Years								
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Late Effects of Respiratory T.B.	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	M	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Maligant Neoplasms	M	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Diabetes Mellitus	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Nervous System	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Hypertensive Disease	M	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
	F	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	13	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	7	3
	F	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	2	–	3
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	2
	F	7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	7
Cerebrovascular Disease	M	16	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	2	12
	F	21	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	6	14
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–
	F	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1
Pneumonia	M	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
	F	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	2
	F	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	F	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	F	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–
	F	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Congenital Anomalies	M	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	F	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Birth Injury, difficult labour, etc.	M	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	F	2	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Motor Vehicle Accidetns	M	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	F	4	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	2	–
All other accidents	M	1	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
	F	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	M	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
	F	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	59	1	2	–	–	–	1	1	4	13	14	23
	F	63	3	1	1	–	–	1	1	3	7	13	33

(i) Principal Causes of Deaths

	All Ages			Percentage
	Males	Females	Total	of Total Deaths
Heart	17	13	30	24.6
Cardio-Vascular Disease of the Central Nervous System	16	21	37	30.3
Cancer	12	10	22	18.3
Respiratory	5	4	9	7.3

(j) Road Accidents

	Fatal	Seriously Injured	Slightly Injured
January	—	—	1
February	—	2	2
March	—	1	4
April	—	1	3
May	—	—	3
June	—	—	2
July	—	—	—
August	—	—	3
September	—	3	3
October	—	—	1
November	—	1	1
December	1	—	—

(k) Accidents in the Home

Five children, two 3 year old girls, two 3 year old boys and one 2 year old boy had accidents in the home. Four had falls, and one took an overdose of drugs.

There were four children in one family, two children in three families and one child in one family. In two instances the mothers went out to work.

(l) Drownings

No person was drowned on the Borough's beaches last year.

(m) Comparative Rates

	England and Wales 1970 Rate per 1,000	Helston 1970 Rate per 1,000
Live Births	16.0	21.5
Still Births	13.0	11
Deaths	11.7	10.1
Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year of age)	18.0	26
Neonatal Mortality (deaths under 4 weeks of age)	12.0	15

	England and Wales 1970 Rate per 1,000	Helston 1970 Rate per 1,000
Early neonatal Mortality (deaths under 1 week of age)	11.0	15
Perinatal mortality (still births and deaths under 1 week of age)	23.0	26

3. Summary of Area Statistics

General	Camborne-Redruth	Kerrier	Helston	Area No.2 Total 1970
Area in Acres	22,411	90,989	4,017	117,417
Population	38,770	22,970	10,190	71,930
No. of inhabited houses	14,640	8,559	3,045	26,244
No. of Council houses	2,098	935	680	3,713
Vital				
No. of births	636	278	271	1,185
Standardised birth rate	17.4	13.2	21.5	
No. of still births	9	3	3	15
Still birth rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths)	14	11	11	
Infant Deaths	10	6	7	23
Infant Mortality Rate	16.00	22.00	26.00	
Maternal Mortality	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	Nil	Nil	Nil	
No. of Deaths	536	278	122	936
Standardised death rate	12.1	11.5	10.1	
Principal Causes of Death (percentage of Total Deaths)				
(a) Infants under 1 year				
Malignant Neoplasms	Nil	Nil	14.29	4.34
Congenital	30.00	16.66	14.29	21.74
Hernia	10.00	Nil	Nil	4.34
Birth Injury & Difficult Labour	10.00	33.36	42.84	26.10
Pneumonia	10.00	Nil	Nil	4.34
Accident	Nil	16.66	14.29	8.70
Respiratory	Nil	16.66	14.29	8.70
Disease of Skin	Nil	16.66	Nil	4.34
Other Causes of Perinatal mortality	40.00	Nil	Nil	17.40
(b) All Ages				
Respiratory	11.3	8.6	7.3	
Cancer	18.8	18.3	19.8	
Heart	37.5	39.9	24.6	
Cardio-vascular disease of the Central Nervous System	14.9	15.8	30.3	

Accident Deaths	Camborne-Redruth M	Camborne-Redruth F	Kerrier M	Kerrier F	Helston M	Helston F	Area No.2 Total 1970
Motor Accidents	6	3	4	1	—	4	
All other accidents	3	7	4	—	1	3	
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	3	1	1	—	1	—	

Infectious Diseases				
Tuberculosis Notifications (new cases only)				
Respiratory	6	3	Nil	9
Non-respiratory	1	Nil	1	2
Incidence Rate —				
Respiratory	0.15	0.13	Nil	
Non-respiratory	0.03	Nil	0.1	
Other Infectious Diseases				
Viral Encephalitis	4	Nil	Nil	4
Measles	436	175	124	735
Whooping Cough	Nil	2	Nil	2
Dysentery	Nil	Nil	1	1
Infective Hepatitis	Nil	1	1	2
Meningitis	1	Nil	Nil	1
Salmonella Infection	1	1	5	7
Scarlet Fever	3	2	Nil	5
Streptococcal Infection	1	Nil	Nil	1

(Rates are given per 1,000 population)

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

1. Local Sanitary Services

(a) Staff

(i) Helston Borough Council (Local Sanitary Authority)

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. J.A.W. REID, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Mr. R.B. HALL, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. – to 31st March, 1970
Mr. R.W. BYWATERS, M.R.S.H., A.F.S. – from 1st April, 1970

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

Mr. R.W. BYWATERS, M.A.P.H.I., A.F.S., – to 31st March, 1970
Mr. J.A. CADMAN, M.A.P.H.I. – from 1st April, 1970

Additional Public Health Inspector

Mr. J.A. CADMAN, M.A.P.H.I. – to 31st March, 1970
Mr. D.W. MULLER, M.A.P.H.I., M.Inst.F. – from 1st May, 1970

Clerical Staff

Miss F.G. BARRETT
Miss A. ROSEWARNE
Mrs. D.E. CHRISTOPHERS (Part-time)

Rodent Operator

Mr. B. HINDER

(ii) Cornwall County Council Staff (Local Health Authority)

Health Area Medical Officer

Dr. J.A.W. REID, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., M.R.S.H.

Clinic Doctor

Dr. W. JACKSON, M.B., B.C.L.

Dentist

Mr. J.K. DONALD, L.D.S., (R.C.S.Eng.) – comm. November, 1970
Mr. J.E. KENNY, L.D.S.

Assistant County Nursing Officer

Miss V. COVENTRY, S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.S., H.V.Cert.

Health Visitors

Mrs. N. SPALDING
Miss M.A. BOWYER
Miss M. SAVAGE
Miss P. TAYLOR

District Nurse/Midwives

Mrs. G.R.E. BERRY
Mrs. H.E. THOMAS

Home Help Organiser

Mrs. P. PHILLIPS

Dental Attendant

Mrs. C. BREWER

Family Welfare

Mrs. A. TYZZER
Mrs. P. BARNES
Mrs. B.W. SMYTH

Mental Health and Welfare Officers — Penzance

Mr. J.R. CLEMO (Senior Mental Health & Welfare Officer)
Mr. E.A. COLLINS
Miss J. FRIDLINGTON
Miss J. HARRISON
Mrs. J. WEBB
Mrs. R. PALMER
Miss K.E. ROBINSON — Social Worker for the Blind
Miss J.J. HAROLD — Occupational Therapist

Clerical Staff

Mr. D. MAY
Mrs. V.E. PAUL
Mrs. S.M. TELLAM
Mrs. A. NICHOLLS (Part-time)
Mrs. M. KELLY
Mrs. M. LUKOWIAK

One-quarter of the Medical Officer of Health's time is devoted to the Personal Health Services which are the function of No. 2 Area Health Sub-Commitee of the Cornwall County Council.

(b) Laboratory Facilities

Pathological and bacteriological specimens requiring examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, Hereunder is a summary of the investigations carried out:

Salmonella Infection	Bird Droppings	1
"	Faeces	26
Dysentery	Faeces	10
Infective Hepatitis	Blood	2
Food Poisoning	Faeces	4

(c) National Assistance Act 1948 and (Amendment) Act 1951 – Section 47

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention

It was not necessary to take any action under this Act during the year.

(d) Old People's Register

A total of 53 persons are known to the Public Health Department. 7 new cases were added to Old People's Register in 1970.

2. Local Health Authority Services

Personal Health Services

The following Personal Health Services are provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946, by the Cornwall County Council and are administered through No. 2 Area Health Sub-Committee on which the Rural District is represented by 3 members and the Borough by 1 member.

(a) Care of Mothers and Young Children (Section 22)

Ante-natal guidance was provided as in past years.

The following educational classes for expectant mothers were held:

	Helston
Sessions held during 1970	24
Mothers attending during 1970	119
Attendance during 1970	564
Average attendance per session	24

The following table shows the number of infants and toddlers who attended the clinic and the number of visits these children made to the clinic throughout the year.

		Helston	Porthleven
First attendance during year of children born in	Present year	232	49
	Last Year	219	25
Born in previous 4 years		73	9
Total attendance under 1 year		2,797	529
Total attendance over 1 year		777	167
Total attendance		3,574	692

Welfare Foods

Welfare Foods are distributed from the following centres:

Helston, Turnpike
Helston, Mr. W. Hartley-Peters, 97 Meneage Street
Corner Store, Porthleven
The Chemist, Porthleven
Mr. Anderton, The Pharmacy, Mullion
Post Office, St. Keverne
Mr. Johns, The Square, Porthleven

Family Planning

The Secretary of the Helston Family Planning Clinic kindly supplied the following information:

For the year 1970, 28 sessions were held at which 630 patients attended.

New patients were referred as follows:

General Practitioner	42
Friends	43
Transfers from other clinics	58
Officially referred	7
Others	27

54 Cervical Smears were taken during this period.

(b) Midwifery — Section 23

There are 11 County Council midwives in the combined area of Helston and Kerrier.

During the year they attended 70 confinements which represents 13% of the total births. Last year 479 expectant mothers had their babies in hospital.

During the year, 54 cases were discharged at 48 hours from the Maternity Hospitals to the care of the domiciliary midwife;

249 before 10th day including 48 hour discharges.

The following number of ante-natal and post-natal visits were made during the year.

	Helston and Kerrier
Post natal	1,669
Ante-natal	2,071

Kerrier Rural District:	Domiciliary	Hospitals
Total births	53	215
Full time	51	204
Stillbirths	2	1
Premature and stillbirths	1	3
Neo natal Deaths	—	3
Other Infant Deaths	1	2
Helston Borough:		
Total births	17	254
Full time	16	246
Neo natal deaths	—	3
Stillbirths	—	3
Premature stillbirths	—	4
Other infant deaths	1	6

Cytology Clinics

13 clinics were held during the year.
229 patients were seen by the clinic doctor.
208 of these were satisfactory.
18 patients were referred to the Family Doctor for treatment of minor conditions
2 cases were referred for further investigation of cancer.

(c) Health Visiting — Section 24

4 full-time Health Visitors and 7 District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors work in the Helston and Kerrier areas, the following is a summary of the work carried out by them.

Domiciliary Visits	Helston and Kerrier
Children under 5 years	7,910
Aged and Infirm	785
Social visits	479
Other cases	26
Ante natal visits	228
Attendance at Clinics	
Welfare Clinics	150
Tuberculosis Clinics	49
Immunisations	10
Mothercraft and Parentcraft	14
Attendance at Schools	
Medical Inspections	118
Cleanliness Inspections	138
Immunisation Sessions	10
Mothercraft	21

(d) Home Nursing — Section 25

12 Home Nurses and 4 part-time nurses were engaged in District Nursing in the combined areas during 1970 and they made 30,385 home visits.

	Helston and Kerrier
General	24,849
Ante-natal visits	2,071
Ante-natal Educational classes	66
Others	2,872
Surgery Visits	527

(e) Vaccination and Immunisation — Section 26

The following table gives the number vaccinated and immunised at the clinics in the area:

		Clinics	
Kerrier		Complete	Incomplete
Poliomyelitis	Full Course Oral	27	15
	Oral Booster	99	
Diphtheria/Whooping cough/Tetanus			
	Primary	27	15
Diphtheria/Tetanus —			
	Primary	3	
	Booster	90	
Smallpox	Primary	15	
Measles		59	
Helston			
Poliomyelitis	Full Course Oral	135	77
	Oral Booster	111	
Diphtheria/Whooping cough/Tetanus —			
	Primary	124	80
Diphtheria/Tetanus —			
	Booster	99	
Smallpox	Primary	101	
Measles		134	

In July, 1971, the Department of Health and Social Security calculated the % of children protected against the following diseases in each County area as compared with England and Wales as a whole.

% OF CHILDREN PROTECTED BY DECEMBER, 1970				
	Children born in 1968			Smallpox (Children under 2)
	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Polio	
England and Wales	79	81	79	35
Cornwall	94	95	93	21

(f) Ambulance Service — Section 27

Week-days, during working hours, the Ambulance Depots at Redruth and Falmouth carry out the routine work in Helston Borough and Kerrier Rural District and deal with some accident and emergency cases.

In Helston, St. John Ambulance Division operate 2 ambulances and deal with the majority of accident and emergency cases during the day as well as at nights and week-ends.

(g) Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care — Section 28

1. Nursing Equipment

Cases discharged from hospital and requiring after-care are treated by the Home Nurse or supervised by the Health Visitor. Sick room equipment such as urine bottles, bedpans, bed rests, air cushions, mattresses, rubber sheeting can be had on loan.

2. Hospital — After Care

The Assistant County Nursing Officer liaises with the hospital staffs. Background reports of home and social conditions are made available to the medical staff and advance requests are made for home nursing, home help, or supervisory visits which the patient may require on discharge.

3. Mental Health and Welfare Workers

To carry out the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1948, 6 Mental Health and Welfare Officers and 3 Family Welfare Workers work in Area 2. The Family Welfare Workers devote their time to problem families.

4. Long Stay Immigrants

No long-stay immigrants came into the Borough in 1970.

(h) Domestic Help Service — Section 29

At the beginning of the year, 75 cases were being served by a Home Help, 12 cases

by a Home Aid and 6 cases by Neighbourly Helps. At the end of the year the Home Help Cases had decreased by 7, Home Aid cases increased by 3 whilst Neighbourly Help cases remained the same. The following table shows the number of cases assisted during the year.

94 cases were served by Home Helps
15 cases were served by Home Aids
7 cases were served by Neighbourly Helps

90% of the cases were over 65 years of age, the remainder being maternity, chronic sick and illness.

(i) Meals on Wheels

Mrs. P. Pearce is the County W.R.V.S. "Meals on Wheels" Organiser. The provision of meals in Helston and Porthleven through the year was as follows:

Helston	714
Porthleven	571

(j)

The Register of children with a handicap in Helston and District contained the following categories:

	Year of Birth											
Disability	1965		1966		1967		1968		1969		1970	
(a)	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Major Congenital Defects												
Physical	7	1	4	1	1	4	2	–	1	1	–	1
Mental	–	1	1	2	2	2	1	–	–	–	–	1
(b)												
Minor Congenital Defects	1	–	–	1	–	1	3	1	2	1	–	–
(c)												
Birth Hazards	1	1	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
(d)												
Defects as a result of injury or disease	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	–

3. Hospital Services

The local services are administered by West Cornwall Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the South Western Regional Hospital Board, and the following are the hospital services for the area:

	Type	No. of Beds		
Meneage House, Helston	Chronic Sick	Female Male	44) 25)	69
Helston Cottage Hospital	General Practitioners	Female Male General Amenity	5) 4) 1) 2)	12
Redruth	Gynaecology & Obstectric	Gynae Maternity Private Amenity Radiotheraphy Staff	31) 20) 3) 2) 2) 2)	60
Barncoose	Geriatric	Female Male	101) 36)	137
Barncoose	Psycho-Geriatric Assessment Unit	Male & Female		29
Tehidy	Chest	Female Male Private	44) 68) 2)	114
West Cornwall Hospital, Penzance	General	Female Male Children Private Amenity Eye	29) 28) 24) 2) 3) 6)	92
Bolitho Maternity Home	Maternity			17
Edward Hain	General Practitioner	Female Male 1 Male/ Female	7) 6)	14
Poltair	Chronic Sick	Female	37	

Infectious Diseases are admitted to R.C.H. (Treliske), Truro.

Clinics

The Chest Clinics are situated at Falmouth Hospital and the West Cornwall Hospital, Penzance. The times of the clinics are as follows:

Falmouth:

Chest Clinic New and old cases	Every Monday except the first Monday in the month	2.00 p.m.
Chest Clinic New and old cases	Every Friday	9.00 a.m.

Falmouth:

Contact Clinic	First Monday of every month	2.00 p.m.

Penzance:

Chest Clinic New and old cases	Every Thursday morning	9.00 a.m.
Contact Clinic	Second Wednesday of each month	2.00 p.m.

The close co-operation between the Area Medical Officer and the Chest Physician has been maintained throughout the year. The Health Visitor responsible for domiciliary visiting of cases of tuberculosis also acts as Clinic Nurse at the weekly Chest Clinics. A register of those patients requring priority visiting and close supervision is kept in the Area Office.

Venereal Disease Clinic

A clinic is held at Falmouth Hospital — each Saturday — 10-12 noon and at West Cornwall Hospital, Penzance — on Thursdays — 3-4 p.m.

4. General Practitioners Service

12 doctors practice from surgeries in Kerrier and Helston.

There are two practices of two doctors, 1 practice of four doctors and 4 practices with one doctor.

5. Mass X-Ray Unit

The unit is available twice a month as follows:

2nd and 4th Monday of each month:	Car Park, Trengrouse Way	5.15 p.m.
	Helston	6.00 p.m.

6. Blood Transfusion Service

I am indebted to Miss Cole, Regional Donor Organiser, for the following information on the Service:

	Sessions	Donors attending
Helston	4	420
R.N.A.S., Culdrose	4	413

SECTION C

ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

1. Water Supply

19 samples were taken from different sources by the South Cornwall Water Board. Two contained Coliform organisms but repeat samples showed these to be satisfactory.

2. Sewage and Sewerage Disposal

A new relief sewer at Water-ma-Trout was completed and put into full operation to serve the four factories on the Council's Industrial Estate.

(a) Helston

The Council's Consultants have submitted a revised scheme to cater for a population of 10,000; and instructions have been given for the geological surveys to be carried out.

(b) Porthleven

This year no real problems occurred but the whole must be kept under review, having regard to the speed of development in the village.

(c) Flooding

No cases of flooding were reported during the year.

Works were carried out to lay a new surface water drain in the low-lying part of Porthleven and this obviously has satisfactory results.

3. Trade Effluent

Further discussions have been taking place during the year and details have been worked out in relation to the Sewage works extension.

4. Public Health Inspections in the District

Inspections have been made to various premises and the following notices served:

F. & I. Notices	Served	Abated
General Repairs	—	—
Animals	—	—
Drainage	19	19
W.C. Accommodation	—	—
Dangerous Buildings	2	2
Nuisances	6	6
P.H. Act	19	19

	Served	Abated
Food Hygiene Regulations	38	22
Building Regulations	44	42
Food and Drugs	9	6

It was found necessary to carry out work in default in respect of two formal notices, and it is likely that this type of work will increase due to the number of owners living outside the district and not having a local interest in their properites.

Housing Act, 1957

70 visits were made under the Housing Act.

Improvements and repairs to property continues to be well maintained and the co-operation of owners of properties is appreciated.

Factories Act, 1961

6 visits were made during the year.

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	—	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	49	6	—	—
3. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers' premises)	2	—	—	—
TOTAL	50	6	—	—

Clean Air Act, 1956

One complaint was received.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

68 private dwellings and 30 business properties were treated for rats and mice.

Successful routine sewer treatments were carried out in Helston and Porthleven.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

There are 5 persons registered under this Act.

Visits and Inspections to various premises during the year were:

Meat Inspection	902	Sewage Plant	187
Public Health Act	169	Public Conveniences	89
Housing Act	70	Public Amenities	168
Food & Drugs Act	191	Food Inspections	29
O.S. & R. Premises Act	6	Refuse Collection and Disposal	240
Drainage Inspections	360	Improvement Grants	33
Burial Grounds	60	Caravan Sites	8
Building Regulations	887	Highways	211
Factories	6	Infectious Diseases	9
Rodent Control	22	Misc. including Oil Pollution	378
Leats & Watercourses	74	Market	104
		Noise Abatement	6

A general increase has been obtained by the alteration of staff usage. This has ensured a far better coverage of essential services and this is shown by the number of notices served.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Council continues to provide a weekly collection to all parts of the district and an additional twice-weekly collection in respect of trade refuse in the area needing this service. Tipping facilities are gradually running out and one site in the adjacent Rural District was obtained and approval was expected but the area was subsequently registered as Common Land and this stopped any further discussions. It is hoped to obtain adjacent land in the same area for the use as a Controlled Tip under the combined authorities.

Cesspool and Gulley Emptying

This authority has been able to run the services on an economic basis throughout the year.

Burial Grounds

A total of 60 visits have been made during the year to both cemeteries.

(a) Heslton Cemetery

The general maintenance has been maintained with increased machinery and the co-operation of the workmen.

(b) Porthleven Cemetery

The proposed extension has been let to a local farmer and will be seeded out when required for further use.

(c) Mortuary

Work was deferred until 1971 but the contract has already been advertised so that work will start early in April.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The public conveniences at the Guildhall and the Monument were improved during the year by the tiling out of the premises and the provision of additional facilities.

SECTION D

HOUSING IN THE AREA

1. Housing

(a) Discussions have been deferred regarding the possible erection of a further 125 houses for Naval Personnel to be erected in the Borough.

(b) Old Persons Housing

Seventeen dwellings with warden's accommodation were completed at Porthleven and have generally proved successful.

(c) General Observations

The continued increase of numbers of elderly persons retiring into the area will give rise to problems in the near future.

It is expected that this will arise in two ways: demands on local welfare services due to the distance of dependants and also financial problems having regards to the rising rate demands and fixed incomes.

It may be necessary for Central Government to consider financial assistance to local authorities in areas where this situation arises.

Two schemes were completed for the sale of land for building at the Horseshoe Area, Porthleven. A further stage will be opened up later.

2. Building Regulations 1965

887 visits were made during the year ending 31st December, 1970.

The Building Regulations are far more exacting than the Building Byelaws which they replace, and this resulted in the appointment of a Building Inspector with improved control being obtained, to such a degree that the Council considered taking legal action in some cases.

3. Improvement Grants

Ten applications were received — 6 Standard Grants and 9 Discretionary Grants. Grants approved amounted to £7,226.

33 visits were made in respect of applications for grants rather less than last year but more persons were found to take advantage of grant aid.

4. Caravan Sites Control of Development Act, 1960

There are 4 permanent sites licenced under the above Act, comprising a total of 140 caravans and it is expected to consider these sites in detail later this year.

In a holiday area such as Cornwall's Lizard Peninsula, with the volume of visitors increasing yearly it is imperative that assistance be given for the provision of satisfactory sites.

SECTION E

FOOD HYGIENE

1. Supervision of Food

(a) Inspections

Continuing routine inspections of food premises have been made during the year.

Visits to food premises were as follows:

902 Slaughterhouse
191 Food Premises (including Ice-Cream dealers)

A series of inspections resulted in the local slaughterhouse having a licence issued for four months only until defects were remedied.

A local bakery has asked for any action to be held pending awaiting alternative premises.

These facts indicate that education occasionally needs the assistance of legislation.

(b) Contraventions

6 contraventions were reported to the Committee during the year regarding foreign bodies in a pasty, corned beef, and bread. Also two cases of dirty milk bottles. No prosecutions were taken in respect of these offences.

(c) Condemnations

Food stuffs condemned after voluntary surrender were destroyed or disposed of under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors. There is still a considerable amount of food being surrendered due to the advent of the frozen foods cold storage electrical failures etc. 29 inspections being made for this purpose, the following items being condemned.

Tinned Foods	Cwts.	sts.	lbs.	ozs.
Meat	—	4	5	2
Vegetables	2	6	2	3
Fruit	2	—	7	7
Soup	—	6	7	11
Fish	—	3	13	6
TOTAL	6	5	7	13
Frozen				
Vegetables	—	—	5	12
Fish	—	6	—	4
Confectionery	—	1	7	—
Meat	3	6	3	10
TOTAL	4	7	2	10

Other Foods — 6st. 4 lbs. 6 ozs.

2. Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959

One premise was registered under this Act.

The Cornwall County Council, as the Food and Drugs Sampling Authority, reported that 17 samples were taken in the Borough and all were satisfactory.

3. Food and Drugs Act, 1955 — Section 16

(a) Ice Cream

2 premises were registered during the year for the sale of Ice-cream. The total premises now registered within the Borough are:

Manufacturers — 1 Dealers — 55

(b) Meat Products

2 additional premises were registered for the manufacture and sale of sausages and cooked meats.

4. Meat Inspection

The majority of animals killed by the local private slaughterhouse are for export to other areas. 100% meat inspection is carried out and totals inspected show little change from the previous year.

	Cattle			Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
	Cattle (except cows)	Cows	Calves		
Number killed	1,706	78	53	604	7,873
Number inspected	1,706	78	53	604	7,873
All diseased except cysticerosis and tuberculosis					
(a) Whole carcase condemned	—	8	6	4	17
(b) Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	331	16	5	3	478
Tuberculosis only					
(a) Whole carcase	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	2	—	—	—	65
Cysticerosis only					
(a) Whole carcase	—	2	—	—	—
(b) Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	7	1	—	—	—
Gross weight of meat condemned:	4 tons	13 cwt	3 stones	6 lbs.	

Seven slaughterman's licences were issued during the year to persons employed in the Helston Slaughterhouse.

SECTION F

GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

Measles

An epidemic of measles occurred between June and September similar to previous measles epidemics in the well-known 2 year cycle of infection. Immunisation against this disease commenced in February, 1968 and one year later a shortage of vaccine delayed the programme of protection of primary school children. The small number of children protected before the Spring of 1970 could not be expected to prevent a further outbreak. With measles immunisation established as a routine measure it is not likely that sufficient children will be protected before 1973 to ensure a marked reduction in cases.

Gastro Enteritis

Salmonella Infection — one person returned from Africa suffering from an infection caused by Salmonella Shubra. The carrier state lasted for two months. In February a young person was notified as suffering from an unknown Salmonella infection having had gastro-intestinal symptoms for the previous five weeks. The infection was due to Salmonella Give, but it's source could not be traced. The schoolchild in the family was found to be a transient carrier. The carrier state in the original case lasted 4 weeks.

Dysentery

One young person who worked in aother part of the country returned home with symptoms of Sonne Dysentery which cleared quickly after a course of antibiotic.

Food Poisoning

One case of food poisoning was notified in a person who handled food in a shop outside the Borough. No bacterial cause was found for this illness.

Infective Hepatitis

One young person contracted mild symptoms of the disease outside the Borough. His wife was expecting a child, but the husband was working away from the home and contact with the family was minimal. Investigations showed the mother, child and nursing staff attending the family to be free of infection.

Rubella

No cases were notified from the schools compared with 4 last year. During the year rubella vaccination for schoolgirls aged 13 years became available. The following table shows the response to the offer of vaccination in Helston Schools.

	Helston Grammar.	Gwealhellis County Sec.	Helston County Sec.	Totals
Estimated No. in Age Group	51	47	31	129
Consents total number	48	45	29	122
% consents of total	94.12	95.74	93.55	94.57
Consented to be vaccinated at school	44	40	24	108
Vaccinated at school	37	32	20	89
%	84.19	80.00	83.33	82.41
To be vaccinated by G.P.	4	5	5	14
Number absent or deferred	7	8	4	19

Tuberculosis

For the second year in succession no cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified. One case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred in the Borough.

Tuberculosis Register

	Males	Females	Total
No. of cases on T.B. Register at commencement of year:			
Respiratory	11	14	25
Non-Respiratory	3	3	6
No. of cases on T.B. Register at the end of the year:			
Respiratory	10	11	21
Non-Respiratory	3	4	7
Restored to the Register during the year:			
Respiratory	—	—	—
Transferred from another area — Respiratory	—	—	—

Removals from Register during Year and Reasons

	Males	Females	Total
Removed from district			
Respiratory	—	2	2
Non-Respiratory	—	—	—
Died			
Respiratory	—	—	—
Non-Respiratory	—	—	—

	Males	Females	Total
Recovered			
Respiratory	1	1	2
Non-Respiratory	—	—	—

School Children Protection

B.C.G. Vaccination of School Children in Helston Schools

	Helston Sec. Mod.	Gwealhellis Sec.Mod.	Helston Grammar	Totals
Estimated number in Age Group	94	183	90	367
Consents:				
Number	86	167	86	339
Percentage	91.48	91.26	95.56	92.37
Given Skin Test				
Number	64	148	80	292
Positive Reactors				
Number	6	15	13	34
Percentage	9.38	12.16	20	13.7
Given BCG	53	109	60	222
No. absent at time of reading	2	10	6	18

NOTIFICATIONS FROM SCHOOLS
1970

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
IMPETIGO	–	–	3	–	1	7	1	–	–	–	–	3
CHICKEN POX	3	–	–	–	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
MEASLES	–	–	–	–	–	–	50	–	1	–	–	–
MUMPS	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
GASTRO-ENTERITIS	–	–	–	–	18	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Notifiable Disease — 1970
By Age Group and Month of the Year

AGE GROUP

Disease	Age Unknown	Under 1	1-3	4-5	6-9	10-14	15-19	25-40	Over 65	Total 1970	Total 1969	Incr. or decr.
Measles	3	2	48	41	28	2	—	—	—	124	46	+ 75
Salmonella Inf.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	—	+ 5
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	— 1
Inf. Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	+ 1
Non-Pul. T.B.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	+ 1

MONTH OF THE YEAR

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	—	1	1	1	—	15	59	35	8	—	4	—	124
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Salmonella Inf.	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
Non-Pul. T.B.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Inf. Hepatitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1

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